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U.S. PTO  
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07/09/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Naoya Hasegawa et al.

Serial No. To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: Exchange Coupling Film and  
Magnetoresistive Element Using the Same

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1 - A2 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-191647 discloses an exchange coupling film comprising a ferromagnetic layer and an antiferromagnetic layer comprising a Mn alloy containing a platinum group element. One of the layers has a crystal orientation. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-214716 discloses an exchange coupling film comprising a ferromagnetic layer and an antiferromagnetic layer comprising a Mn alloy containing a platinum group element. One of the layers has a crystal orientation.


The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and

Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Milz", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael E. Milz  
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Attorney for Applicants

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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	To be Assigned	9281-3996
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
Herewith		
APPLICANTS: Naoya Hasegawa et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	A1	Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-191647	07/1999	Japan		X (Partial)	
	A2	Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-214716	08/1998	Japan		X (Partial)	

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.